



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **KEVIN SHELLEY**

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Referendum Proponents May Begin Collecting Signatures in Attempt to Repeal Immigrant Drivers License Law

SAN FRANCISCO --- Secretary of State Kevin Shelley today authorized the proponents of a proposed referendum measure to begin collecting signatures to require voter approval before a law recently passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor can take effect.

To qualify a referendum for the ballot, the proponents are required by the California Constitution to submit petition signatures of 373,816 registered voters to county election officials within 90 days from the date the bill is chaptered. Senate Bill 60 (Cedillo, D – Los Angeles) was chaptered on September 8, 2003. Proponents have until December 7, 2003 to submit petition signatures.

The Attorney General's official title and summary is as follows:

REFERENDUM PETITION TO OVERTURN IMMIGRANT DRIVER'S LICENSE LAW. If signed by required number of electors and timely filed with Secretary of State, this petition will prevent implementation of Chapter 326, Statutes of 2003, a statute approved by the Legislature and Governor, unless and until it is approved by a majority of voters. Chapter 326 eliminates proof of citizenship or U.S. legal residency requirement for driver's license or identification card. For those ineligible for a social security card, it permits other documentation to prove identity—for example, a birth certificate plus foreign passport. Social security number required for commercial driver's license.

Once signatures are submitted to county elections officials for verification, the law that the referendum seeks to repeal is stayed from taking effect until wither the qualification attempt fails or the issue is addressed by the state's voters.

The proponents of the referendum are Mike Spence and Dick Mountjoy can be reached at (626) 859-2042.

For a copy of the complete text, title & summary, and circulation calendar, please contact the Secretary of State's Press Office at (916) 653-6575.